Leominster Retirement System



Actuarial Valuation January 1, 2004

STONE CONSULTING, INC.

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December 21, 2004

Leominster Retirement Board City Hall, Room 15 25 West Street Leominster, MA 01453

Dear Leominster Retirement Board:

Stone Consulting, Inc. has performed a January 1, 2004 actuarial valuation of the Leominster Retirement System. This valuation and report was prepared using generally accepted actuarial principles and practices and meets the parameters set by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement (GASB) No. 25. To the best of our knowledge, this report is complete and accurate, and the assumptions used represent our best estimate of anticipated experience of the system.

As part of performing the valuation, Stone Consulting, Inc. was furnished member data by the Leominster Retirement System's administrative staff. Although examined for general reasonableness, the data was not audited by the actuary. In addition, the administrative staff furnished financial statements that were not audited by the actuary or by the plan's auditors.

The funding objective of the plan is to fully fund the system while attempting to maintain a stable contribution amount for the upcoming fiscal year that is consistent with prior funding schedules. Additional funding is available this year so the system has been able to shorten the funding schedule. Leominster is taking a proactive stance towards the recent GASB statement regarding accounting for post-employment medical benefits. By enabling the shorter funding schedule, the City will have greater flexibility to deal with the financial implications of post-employment medical benefits.

We anticipate over time that the contribution level to decrease as a percentage of payroll. The contribution rate is determined by adding the normal cost plus an amortization of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability. The normal cost is expected to remain at a level percentage of payroll. The length of the funding schedule contained in this actuarial valuation report is twelve years (fully funded by 2017) and the amortization increase is 2.5% per year. The amortization increase cannot exceed 4.5% annually. The maximum length of the funding schedule is until fiscal 2028. These limits are contained in Chapter 32 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

The contribution amount for Fiscal Year 2006 is \$4,648,322 that is \$824,296 greater than the planned 2006 contribution. The Leominster Retirement Board conducted the prior actuarial valuation in 2001. PERAC and GASB guidelines suggest valuations be conducted at least biennially.

We are pleased to present the results of this valuation. If the Retirement Board has any questions on the content of this report, we would be glad to respond.

Respectfully submitted,

STONE CONSULTING, INC.

Lawre B Stone

Actuaries for the Plan

Lawrence B. Stone

Member, American Academy of Actuaries

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SECTION I

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of the actuarial valuation of the Leominster Retirement System. The valuation was performed at the request of the Retirement Board as of January 1, 2004 for the purpose of determining the contribution requirement for Fiscal Year 2006.

The valuation was based on member data as of January 1, 2004 supplied by the Retirement Board. Asset information as of January 1, 2004 was provided in financial statements prepared by the Retirement Board. The provisions reflected in the valuation are based on Chapter 32 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and related statutes.

The recommended contribution amount for Fiscal Year 2006 is \$4,648,322. The expected contribution amount prior to the new valuation results, for Fiscal Year 2006, is \$3,824,026. The funding schedule is twelve years in length with a 2.5% amortization. The maximum funding schedule length allowed by Chapter 32 of the Massachusetts General Laws is 23 years. The maximum amortization increase allowed is 4.5%. The Fiscal Year 2006 contribution is \$824,296 more than the planned 2006 contribution. The City has indicated that funding is available for this significant contribution increase.

January 1, 2001 Valuation January 1, 2004 Valuation

Contribution Fiscal 2006	\$3,824,026	\$4,648,322
Funding Schedule Length	23 years	12 years
Amortization Increase	2.5%	2.5%
Funding Ratio	69%	67%

The interest rate assumption of 8.0% is the same assumption that were used in the 2001 actuarial valuation while the 4.75% salary increase assumption is .25% less than the 5.0% assumption used in the 2001 actuarial valuation.

The funding level of the Leominster Retirement System is 67% compared to 69% at the time of the prior valuation of January 1, 2001. Over the three-year period between the valuations, there was an actuarial asset loss of \$5.1 million due to the actual return being lower than the expected return on assets.

In the report are exhibits in which the demographic information, actuarial results, and actuarial assumptions, cost methods and techniques are given in greater detail.

SECTION II

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Members *

•	Act	ives

a. Number	613	0.5%
b. Annual Compensation	\$20,658,391	13.6%
c. Average Annual Compensation	\$33,700	13.1%
d. Average Attained Age	45.4	2.5%
e. Average Past Service	10.2	6.3%

• Retired, Disabled and Beneficiaries

a. Number	369	0.5%
b. Total Annual Retirement	\$4,894,305	21.0%
Allowance excluding State-reimbursed	, .	
COLA		

• Inactives

a. Number

41 -43.1%

Payroll has increased only 13.6% over the three-year period. Average annual compensation increased 13.1% over the same period (a 4.2% annual rate). We use average annual compensation as the measure that is most accurate in reflecting salary increase growth. This growth is in line with the projected 4.75% salary increase assumption. In consultation with the Board, using a 4.75% salary increase assumption is consistent with anticipated salary increase growth. It should be noted that the assumption includes not only general salary increases but also the impact of steps, promotions and equity adjustments.

^{*}In parentheses is the percentage increase/decrease from the January 1, 2001 valuation.

VALUATION METHODOLOGY

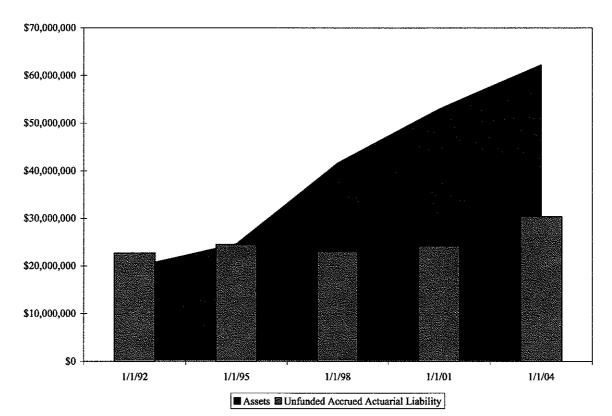
Stone Consulting, Inc. used the Entry Age Normal actuarial funding method in this actuarial valuation. The use of the Entry Age Normal actuarial funding method is consistent with the requirements of Chapter 32 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

ACTUARIAL ACCRUED LIABILITY AND FUNDED STATUS

Active Actuarial Accrued Liability	\$ 47,025,576
Retiree, Inactive, Survivor and Beneficiary	
Actuarial Accrued Liability	45,533,206
Total Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL)	\$ 92,558,782
Actuarial Value of Assets (AVA)	\$ 62,213,772
Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability	\$ 30,345,010
Funding Ratio (AVA / AAL)	67%

Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) is the "price" of benefits attributable to benefits earned in past years. The total AAL is \$92,558,782. This along with an actuarial value of assets of \$62,213,772 produces a funded status of 67%. This compares to a funding ratio of 69% in the 2001 valuation.

The chart below is a history of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability and the actuarial value of over the course of the past five actuarial valuations.



NORMAL COST

Gross Normal Cost	\$ 2,659,937
Employees Contribution	1,697,638
Net Normal Cost	\$ 962,299
Adjusted to Beginning of Fiscal Year 2006	\$ 69,372
Administrative Expense	138,000
Adjusted Net Normal Cost With Admin. Expense	\$ 1,169,671

The gross normal cost (GNC) is the "price" of benefits accruing in the current year. The GNC is \$2,659,937. The GNC is offset by estimated employee contributions of \$1,697,638, resulting in a net normal cost (NNC) of \$962,299. The Retirement Board estimated an administrative expense budget for Fiscal Year 2006 of \$138,000. The net normal cost is adjusted to the beginning of the fiscal year and the administrative expense of \$138,000 is added. The sum of the net normal cost and the administrative expense is the net employer normal cost.

CONTRIBUTION

Adjusted Net Employer Normal Cost for Fiscal 2006	\$ 1,169,671
Amortization	<u>3,478,651</u>
Total Appropriation required for Fiscal 2006	\$ 4,648,322

The contribution is composed of the normal cost, and the amortization of the actuarial accrued unfunded liability adjusted by the administrative expense assumption.

The contribution amount for Fiscal 2006 is \$4,648,322. The funding schedule is presented on page 9. The schedule's length is twelve years, eleven years less than the maximum allowed under Chapter 32. In developing the funding schedule, we used a fresh start approach in which the unfunded actuarial accrued liability, with the exception of the liability associated with the early retirement incentive, is reamortized instead of maintaining the existing amortization amount and separately amortizing the actuarial gain or loss. The use of a fresh-start approach results in a funding schedule in which the changes in contribution amounts from year to year are more consistent. The amortization increase is 2.5%. The schedule's amortization increase remains the same as the prior 2001 valuation while the length has been shortened by eleven years.

Allocation of Contribution

PERAC notified the Retirement Board on December 5, 2003 of the allocation of the contribution between the City and various governmental units in those percentages reported below:

Unit	Percent	Estimated 2006 Allocation
City	92.14%	\$4,282,964
Housing Authority	2.91%	135,266
Water Enterprise	3.62%	168,269
Sewer Services	1.33%	61,823
TOTAL:	100.00%	\$4,648,322

The percentage allocation were based on compensation rates of September 2003. The Fiscal 2006 contribution using the above allocation, would be what is shown in the right column, Estimated 2006 Allocation. PERAC will inform the Retirement Board of the new allocations based on the compensation rates reported as of September 2004.

Timing of Contributions

Employer contributions are assumed to be made at the beginning of the fiscal year.

SECTION II (Continued)

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY SUMMARY

The principal actuarial assumptions used in this valuation are the same as the assumptions used in the previous valuation, except where noted, and are summarized in the following table:

Assumption January 1, 2004 Valuation
Interest Rate 8.00%

Salary Increase 4.75%

(5.00% prior valuation)

COLA 3% of \$12,000

COLA Frequency Granted every year

Mortality RP-2000 table. For members retired under

an Accidental Disability (job-related), 40% % of deaths are assumed to be from the same cause as the disability. Disabled mortality RP2000 table, ages set forward 7

years.

Overall Disability Groups 1 and 2 45% ordinary disability

55% accidental disability

Group 4

10% ordinary disability 90% accidental disability

•

Retirement Rates

Groups 1 and 2

Ages 55 – 65

Group 4

Ages 50 - 65

Administrative Expense \$138,000 budget estimated for FY 2006

provided by Leominster Contributory

Retirement Board.

SECTION II (Continued)

MEMBERSHIP DATA

The data was supplied by the Leominster Retirement Board. The data was checked under broad parameters of reasonableness. With the assistance of the staff of the Leominster Retirement Board, we were able to develop a database sufficient for valuation purposes.

ASSETS

a.	Cash, PRIT cash and Short-term Securities	\$ 1,226,505.13
b.	Pooled Domestic Equity	2,984,647.53
c.	Pooled International Equity	7,216,719.10
d.	Pooled Global Equity	23,737,881.16
e.	Pooled Domestic Fixed Income	27,048,006.58
f.	Subtotal	\$ 62,213,759.50
g.	Interest Due and Accrued	\$ 12.99
h.	Accounts Receivable	-
i.	Accounts Payable	-
j.	Subtotal	\$ 12.99
k.	Market Value of Assets [(f) + (j)]	\$ 62,213,772.49

We were furnished with the System's annual report by the Board. The market value of assets as of December 31, 2003 (adjusted for interest due and accrued, payables and receivables) is \$62,213,772.49.

Assets are invested 2.0% in cash and short-term securities, 55% in equities, 43% in fixed income. The 8.0% interest rate assumption is somewhat high in light of the asset mix. The Board expects to make a prospective change to the asset mix. If the Board does not change the asset mix, we recommend use of a 7.75% interest rate. This would increase the unfunded actuarial accrued liability by \$2.5 million and the Fiscal 2006 contribution by \$416,000.

LEOMINSTER RETIREMENT SYSTEM FUNDING SCHEDULE

			Funding	
Fiscal	Normal	Unfunded	Amortization	Schedule
Year	Cost	Liability	of UAL	Contribution
2006	1,169,671	31,826,513	3,478,651	4,648,322
2007	1,225,230	30,615,691	3,565,618	4,790,848
2008	1,283,429	29,214,079	3,654,758	4,938,187
2009	1,344,392	27,604,066	3,746,127	5,090,519
2010	1,408,250	25,766,574	3,839,780	5,248,031
2011	1,475,142	23,680,937	3,935,775	5,410,917
2012	1,545,211	21,324,776	4,034,169	5,579,381
2013	1,618,609	18,673,855	4,135,023	5,753,632
2014	1,695,493	15,701,938	4,238,399	5,933,892
2015	1,776,029	12,380,622	4,344,359	6,120,388
2016	1,860,390	8,679,164	4,452,968	6,313,358
2017	1,948,759	4,564,292	4,564,292	6,513,051
2018	2,041,325	-	-	2,041,325

Amortization of Unfunded Liability as of July 1, 2005

		Original Amort.	Percentage	Original #	Current Amort.	Years
Year	Туре	Amount	Increasing	of Years	Amount	Remaining
2006	Fresh Start	3,478,651	2.50%	12	3,478,651	12

Notes on Amortization of Unfunded Liability

Year is the year the amortization base was established.

Type is the reason for the creation of the base. Examples are Gain/(Loss) or Fresh Start.

Original Amortization Amount is the annual amortization amount when the base was established Percentage Increasing is the percentage that the Original Amortization Amount increases per year Original # of Years is the number of years over which the base is being amortized.

Current Amortization Amount is the amortization payment amount for this year.

Years Remaining is the number of years left to amortize the base.

SECTION II (Continued)

SUMMARY OF JANUARY 1, 2004 VALUATION

_	January 1, 2 Valuation	
FundingContribution for Fiscal 2006	\$4.	648,322
Contribution for Fiscal 2006 based on current schedule	·	824,026
schedule	φ3,	024,020
Members *		
• Actives		
a. Number	613	0.5%
b. Annual Compensation	\$20,658,391	13.6%
c. Average Annual Compensation	\$33,700	
d. Average Attained Age	45.4	2.5%
e. Average Past Service	10.2	6.3%
Retired, Disabled and Beneficiaries		
a. Number	369	0.5%
b. Total Annual Retirement	\$4,894,305	21.0%
Allowance excluding state-reimbursed		
COLA		
• Inactives		
a. Number	41	-43.1%
Normal Cost		
a. Total Normal Cost as of January 1, 2004	\$2,	659,937
b. Less Expected Members' Contributions	<u>1,</u>	697 <u>,638</u>
c. Normal Cost to be funded by the Municipality	\$	962,299
d. Adjustment to July 1, 2005		69,372
e. Administrative Expense Assumption		<u>138,000</u>
f. Normal Cost Adjusted to July 1, 2005	\$1,	169,671

^{*}Percentage increase/decrease from the January 1, 2001 valuation.

SUMMARY OF JANUARY 1, 2004 VALUATION (Continued)

	January 1, 2004 Valuation
Actuarial Accrued Liability as of January 1, 2004	
a. Active Members	\$47,025,576
b. Inactive Members	484,183
c. Retired Members and Beneficiaries	<u>45,049,023</u>
d. Total	\$92,558,782
Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability	
a. Actuarial Accrued Liability as of January 1, 2004	\$92,558,782
b. Less Actuarial Value of Assets as of January 1, 2004	<u>62,213,772</u>
c. Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability as of Jan. 1, 2004	\$30,345,010
d. Adjustment to July 1, 2005	<u>1,481,503</u>
e. Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability as of July 1, 2005	\$31,826,513

SECTION II (CONTINUED)

DISCLOSURE INFORMATION UNDER GASB STATEMENT 25

Schedules of Funding Progress

(Dollars in Thousands)

Actuarial Valuation Date	Actuarial Value of Assets	Actuarial Accrued Liability	Unfunded AAL (UAAL)	Funded Ratio	Covered Payroll	UAAL as a % of Covered Payroll
	A	В	B-A	A/B	C	(B-A)/C
1/1/2004	\$62,214	\$92,559	\$30,345	67%	\$20,658	147%
1/1/2001	\$52,941	\$77,053	\$24,112	69%	\$18,178	133%

Notes to Schedules

Additional information as of the latest actuarial valuation follows:

Valuation date

1/1/2004

Actuarial cost method

Entry Age Normal

Amortization method

Approximate level percent of payroll

Closed

Remaining amortization period

12 years

Asset valuation method

Market value adjusted by payables and receivables.

Actuarial assumptions:

Investment Rate of Return

8.00% per year

Projected Salary Increases

4.75% per year

13

LEOMINSTER CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT SYSTEM

PERAC INFORMATION DISCLOSURE

The most recent actuarial valuation of the System was prepared by Stone Consulting, Inc. as of January 1, 2004

The normal cost for employees on that date was: The normal cost for the employer was:	1,697,638 \$962,299	8.2% of payroll 4.7% of payroll
The actuarial liability for active members was:	\$47,025,576	
The actuarial liability for retired members was (includes inactives):	\$45,533,206	
Total actuarial accrued liability:	\$92,558,782	
System assets as of that date:	62,213,772	
Unfunded actuarial accrued liability:	\$30,345,010	
The ratio of system's assets to total actuarial liability was:	%19	
As of that date the total covered employee payroll was	\$20,658,391	

The principal actuarial assumptions used in the valuation are as follows:

8.00% per annum Rate of Salary Increase: Investment Return:

4.75% per annum

SCHEDULE OF FUNDING PROGRESS (Dollars in \$000's)

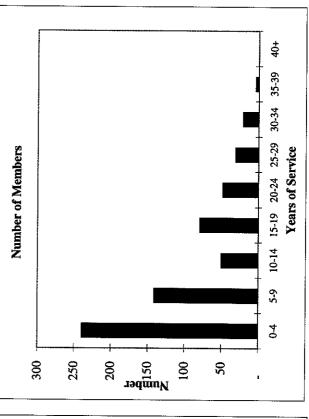
UAAL as a % of	Covered Payroll	((b-a)/c)	147%	133%
Covered	Payroll	(3)	\$20,658	\$18,178
	Ratio	(a/p)	%19	%69
Unfunded AAL	(UAAL)	(b-a)	\$30,345	\$24,112
Actuarial Accrued	Liability (AAL)	(p)	\$92,559	\$77,053
Value of	Assets	(a)	\$62,214	\$52,941
	Actuarial Valuation	Date	1/1/2004	1/1/2001

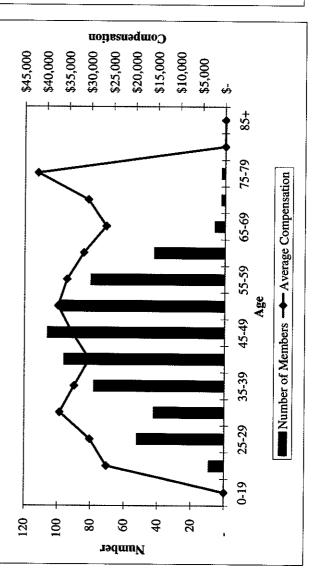
Distribution of Plan Members

STONE CONSULTING, INC.

Leominster Retirement System Distribution of Plan Members as of January 1, 2004 Active Members

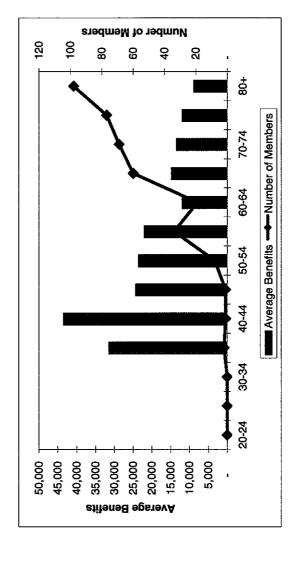
			CIMAT LY-AT	or reals 5.7 reals 10-14 reals 15-17 reals 20-24 reals	Ra X +7-07	rs 23-27 real	rs 30-34 Yea	S 35-39 Yea	25-29 Years 30-34 Years 35-39 Years 40 + Years	Total	Total Compensation	Compensation
,	,		ı	•	•	•	1		•	•	·	·
ਰਾ	ر و	•	•	1	•	•	r	•	•	6	237,864	26,429
د	48	4	1	•	ı	•	•	ı	t	52	1,568,838	30,170
4	56	16	•	ı	•	•	1	•	•	42	1,552,727	36.970
35-39	33	24	9	15		ı	1	1	ı	78	2,630,182	33.720
4	41	22	7	20	_	- 9	ı	•		96	2,904,769	30,258
•	33	31	∞	11	1	9		•	1	106	3,634,232	34.285
4	22	24	10	10	1	1 14	2		ı	98	3,664,518	37.393
<u> </u>	18	13	10	13	•		3 16		1	80	2,831,316	35,391
77	9	7	∞	7	•	••	- 2		3	42	1.328.880	31 640
•	7		•	3			•	•	•	9	159,741	26.624
	1	1	_	•	1	ŀ	•		1	2	61,326	30,663
•	1	•	•	ı		•	1	•	1	7	83,999	42.000
**	•	ı	•		•	r	•	•	•	1	1	
	,	•	•	•	1	•	•	1	,	ı		
TOTAL	239	141	20	79	48	31	1,	_	•	,		•





Leominster Retirement System Distribution of Plan Members as of January 1, 2004 Retired Members

	1	Disabled Member			Retired M	Retired Members and Beneficiaries	ciaries
Age	Number	Vumber Average Benefit	Total Benefit	Age	Number	Number Average Benefit	Total Benefit
20-24	,	•	•	20-24	•	•	1
25-29	•	•	•	25-29	,	•	•
30-34	•	•	ŧ	30-34	•	•	,
35-39	-	29,517	29,517	35-39	_	33,331	33,331
40-44	_	43,474	43,474	40-44	4	ı	1
45-49	-	24,266	24,266	45-49	1	t	ř
50-54	4	23,719	94,875	50-54	4	23,276	93,104
55-59	7	18,663	130,643	55-59	27	22,895	618,174
60-64	2	17,358	34,715	60-64	17	11,336	192,706
69-59	S	21,105	105,524	69-59	55	14,208	781,459
70-74	7	19,479	136,354	70-74	62	12,751	790,537
75-79	5	20,567	102,833	75-79	72	11,334	816,013
\$ 0 +	9	15,096	90,576	+08	92	8,437	776,205
TOTAL	39	\$ 20,328	\$ 792,777	TOTAL	330	\$ 12,429	\$ 4,101,528



62,848 43,474 24,266 187,979 748,816 227,421 886,983 926,891 918,846 866,781 4,894,305 Total Benefit Number Average Benefit 13,433 11,933 8,845 **13,264** 24,266 23,497 22,024 11,970 31,424 43,474 14,783 Age 20-24 25-29 30-34 35-39 40-44 45-49 60-64 60-64 65-69 70-74 75-79

Benefits shown are net of State reimbursed COLA.

ACTUARIAL METHODS AND ASSUMPTIONS

Actuarial Methods

1. Actuarial Cost Method The Entry Ag

The Entry Age Normal Actuarial Cost Method has been used in this valuation. Under this method, the normal cost is the amount calculated as the level percentage of compensation necessary to fully fund the prospective benefits from each member's entry age to retirement age.

The actuarial accrued liability represents the theoretical accumulation of all prior years' normal costs for the plan members as if the program had always been in effect. The unfunded actuarial accrued liability is the excess of the actuarial accrued liability over plan assets.

2. Asset Valuation Method

Market value of assets (adjusted by payables and receivables).

3. Fiscal Year Adjustment

The actuarial results are adjusted by the valuation interest rate and salary scale to the beginning of Fiscal Year 2006. The unfunded actuarial accrued liability is rolled forward with normal cost and further adjusted by anticipated contributions and interest.

Actuarial Assumptions

1. Investment Return

8.00% per year net of investment expenses.

2. Salary Increases

4.75% per year (5.00% per year, prior valuation).

ACTUARIAL METHODS AND ASSUMPTIONS (Continued)

3. Withdrawal Prior to Retirement

The rates shown at the following sample ages illustrate the withdrawal assumption.

	Rate of With	drawal
Age	Group 1 and 2	Group 4
20	37.51%	3.15%
25	28.23	2.85
30	17.35	2.48
35	10.07	1.88
40	7.21	0.84
45	5.68	0.06
50	4.57	0.00
55	0.00	0.00

4. Disability Prior to Retirement

The rates shown at the following sample ages illustrate the assumption regarding the incidence of disability:

Rate of Disa	bility
Group 1 and 2	Group 4
0.03%	0.10%
0.04	0.12
0.06	0.18
0.08	0.26
0.12	0.38
0.18	0.58
0.31	0.98
0.50	1.60
0.61	2.06
	Group 1 and 2 0.03% 0.04 0.06 0.08 0.12 0.18 0.31 0.50

Disability is assumed to be 45% ordinary and 55% accidental for Group 1 and 2 and 10% ordinary and 90% accidental for Group 4.

ACTUARIAL METHODS AND ASSUMPTIONS (Continued)

5. Rates of Retirement

The rates shown at the following ages illustrate the assumption regarding the incidence of retirement, once the member has achieved 10 years of service:

	Rates of	
	Retirement	
Age	Group 1 and 2	Group 4
50	N/A	2.0%
51	N/A	2.0
52	N/A	2.0
53	N/A	2.0
54	N/A	2.0
55	10.0%	5.0
56	3.0	5.0
57	3.0	5.0
58	3.0	5.0
59	5.0	5.0
60	5.0	10.0
61	5.0	10.0
62	10.0	20.0
63	10.0	20.0
64	10.0	20.0
65	100.0	100.0

6. Mortality

For retirees, the RP-2000 for Healthy Retirees mortality table (sex-distinct). For actives, the RP-2000 for Employees mortality table (sex-distinct).

7. Disabled Life Mortality

The RP-2000 mortality table for healthy annuitants (sexdistinct) set-forward by 7 years. Death is assumed to be due to the same cause as the disability 40% of the time.

8. Regular Interest Rate Credited to Annuity Savings Account

2% per year.

9. Family Composition

Members assumed married with 2 dependent children – one male and one female both age 15; age difference between member and spouse assumed to be 3 years (the male being the older).

10. Cost-of-Living Increases

A 3% COLA on the first \$12,000 of a member's retirement allowance is assumed granted every year.

ACTUARIAL METHODS AND ASSUMPTIONS (Continued)

11. Administrative Expenses

Estimated budgeted amount of \$138,000 for the Fiscal Year 2006 excluding investment management fees and custodial fee is added to the Normal Cost.

12. Step Increases

Step increases are assumed to be part of the salary increase assumption.

13. Credited Service

Service between date of hire and date of membership is assumed to be purchased by all members.

14. Contribution Timing

Contributions are assumed to be at the beginning of the fiscal year (July 1).

January 1, 2004.

15. Valuation Date

SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL PROVISIONS

1. Participant	;

Participation is mandatory for all full-time employees whose employment commences before age 65. There are three classes of members in the retirement system:

Group 1: general employees

Group 2: employees in specified hazardous occupations (e.g., electricians)

Group 4: police and firefighters

2. Member Contributions

Member contributions vary depending upon date hired as follows:

Member Contribution Rate
5% of Pay
7% of Pay
8% of Pay
9% of Pay

Members hired after 1978 contribute an additional 2% of pay over \$30,000.

3. <u>Pay</u>

a. Pay

Gross regular compensation excluding bonuses, overtime, severance pay, unused sick pay, and other similar compensation.

b. Average Pay

The average of pay during the 3 consecutive years that produce the highest average or, if greater, during the last three years (whether or not consecutive) preceding retirement.

4. Credited Service

Period during which an employee contributes to the retirement system plus certain periods of military service and "purchased" service.

SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL PROVISIONS (Continued)

5. Service Retirement

a. Eligibility

Completion of 20 years of credited service; otherwise, attainment of age 55 and completion of 10 years of credited service. If hired prior to 1978, or a member of Group 4, attainment of age 55.

b. Retirement Allowance

Determined as the product of the member's benefit percentage, average pay and credited service, where the benefit percentage is shown below (maximum allowance of 80% of average pay):

Benefit Percentage	Group 1	Group 2	Group 4
2.5%	65+	60+	55+
2.4	64	59	54
2.3	63	58	53
2.2	62	57	52
2.1	61	56	51
2.0	60	55	50
1.9	59	N/A	49
1.8	58	N/A	48
1.7	57	N/A	47
1.6	56	N/A	46
1.5	55	N/A	45

In addition, veterans receive an additional \$15 per year for each year of credited service up to 20 years

6. Deferred Vested Retirement

a. Eligibility

Completion of 10 years of credited service (for elected and appointed members, 6 years in the event of involuntary termination).

SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL PROVISIONS (Continued)

b. Retirement Allowance

Determined in the same manner as 5b. with the benefit payable at age 55, unless deferred until later at the member's option.

Member contributions with interest may be withdrawn after separation from service. If contributions are withdrawn, eligibility for retirement benefits is forfeited. Members hired before 1984 receive full interest on contributions that are withdrawn; otherwise, one half the credited interest is provided for members who withdraw after 5 but before 10 years of credited service and no interest is provided for withdrawals before 5 years of credited service.

7. Ordinary Disability Retirement

a. Eligibility

Non-job related disability after completion of 10 years of credited service.

b. Retirement Allowance

Determined in the same manner as 5b. with the benefit payable immediately. Veterans receive 50% of pay (during final year) plus an annuity based on accumulated member contributions with interest.

8. Accidental Disability Retirement

a. Eligibility

Disabled as a result of an accident in the performance of duties. No age or service requirement.

b. Retirement Allowance

72% of pay plus an annuity based on accumulated member contributions with interest. Also, a dependent's allowance per year for each child. Total allowance not to exceed 100% of pay (75% for members hired after 1987).

9. Non-Occupational Death

a. Eligibility

Dies while in active service, but not due to occupational injury. 2 years of service.

SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL PROVISIONS (Continued)

b. Retirement Allowance Benefit as if Option C had been elected (see below).

Minimum monthly benefits provided as follows: spouse - \$250, first child - \$120, each additional child

- \$90.

10. Occupational Death

a. Eligibility Dies as a result of an occupational injury.

b. Benefit Amount Same as 8b.

11. Cost-of-Living Increases An increase of up to 3% applied to the first \$12,000 of

annual benefit. Funded by the Municipality from Fiscal Year 1999. Percentage increase is voted on each year by the Retirement Board. Cost-of-living increases granted during Fiscal Year 1982 through

Fiscal 1998 are reimbursed by the Commonwealth.

12. Optional Forms of Payment

a. Option A Allowance payable monthly for the life of the member.

b. Option B Allowance payable monthly for the life of the member

with a guarantee of remaining member contributions

with interest.

c. Option C Allowance payable monthly for the life of the member

with 66-2/3% continuing to the member's beneficiary upon the member's death. If the beneficiary predeceases the member, the allowance amount "pops

up" to the non-reduced amount.

SECTION II (Continued)

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1.	Present Value of Benefits	Represents the dollar value today of all benefits expected to be earned by current members if all actuarial assumptions are exactly realized.
2.	Actuarial Cost Method	The procedure that is used to allocate the present value of benefits between the liability that is attributable to past service (Actuarial Accrued Liability) and that attributable to future service.
3.	Actuarial Assumptions	Estimates are made as to the occurrence of certain events that determine the level of benefits to be paid and how long they will be provided. The more important actuarial assumptions include the investment return on assets, salary increases and the rates of turnover, disability, retirement and mortality.
4.	Actuarial Accrued Liability	The portion of the Present Value of Benefits that is attributable to past service.
5.	Normal Cost	The portion of the Present Value of Benefits that is attributable to benefits to be earned in the coming year.
6.	Actuarial Assets	Market value of assets of the funds, adjusted by payables and receivables, set aside through employer and member contributions to provide for benefits.
7.	Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability	That portion of the Actuarial Accrued Liability not covered by System Assets.
8.	<u>PERAC</u>	Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission, a division of the State government which has regulatory authority over the administration of the retirement system.
9.	<u>PRIT</u>	Pension Reserves Investment Trust Fund is the state controlled and administered fund for the investment of assets for members of the retirement system.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS (Continued)

10. <u>GASB</u>

Government Accounting Standards Board (issues guidance for disclosure of retirement system liabilities).